

\*\*\*\*\*February 25, 2019\*\*\*\*\*

The Signal Mountain Town Council held its regular meeting on Monday, February 25, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall. Those present were:

Those present were: Mayor Dan Landrum  
Vice Mayor Amy Speek  
Councilmember Bill Lusk  
Councilmember Susannah Murdock  
Councilmember Robert Spalding

Also present were: Town Manager Boyd Veal  
Town Attorney Harry Cash  
Finance Director/Town Recorder Carol White  
See attached list for others present

Mayor Landrum led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

### **Signal Mountain Fire Department Strategic Plan**

Fire Chief, Eric Mitchell, provided a presentation of the Town's Fire Department Strategic Plan (copy attached). In discussions following the presentation, the Council asked if there were a method for residents to alert emergency responders to any special needs/situations that might exist in a home. Chief Mitchell replied that Dispatch maintains a system of Premise Notes. Council and Chief Mitchell discussed the best method to make residents aware of this program along with the annual free installation of smoke detectors offered by the Fire Department. Chief Mitchell said he will investigate various options including mailers or door hangars.

### **Citizen Comments**

Mayor Landrum invited comments from the audience.

Elizabeth Baker, Carriage Hill, said the Fire Department had installed smoke detectors in her home, and that it had been a very thorough safety review.

Dun Monroe, Cherokee Lane, asked to what extent Walden's Ridge Emergency Service (WRES) responds to any needs the Town might have. Town Manager, Boyd Veal, informed him that the Town has a mutual aid agreement with WRES which means that if we have a need, they will respond.

There being no further comments, the meeting resumed.

### **Resolutions**

1. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO PURCHASE ONE  
(1) 2019 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2500HD, TENNESSEE STATE CONTRACT

NUMBER 56443, FROM WILSON COUNTY MOTOR CO., LLC, LEBANON, TENNESSEE, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN DOLLARS AND NO/100 (\$28,697.00) TO BE USED BY THE WATER DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN.”

Vice Mayor Speek made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Murdock seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion was approved.

2. “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH JOHNSON, MURPHY & WRIGHT, P.C. TO AUDIT TOWN ACCOUNTS FROM JULY 1, 2018 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2019, AND TO PROVIDE PAYMENT FOR MUNICIPAL AUDITING SERVICES PERFORMED ON TOWN ACCOUNTS FOR THAT TIME PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS AND NO/100 (\$25,650.00).”

Mayor Landrum reminded the Council about prior discussions regarding changing auditing firms, but that after those discussions the Council agreed they preferred to stay with Johnson, Murphy & Wright.

Councilmember Lusk made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Spalding seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion was approved.

3. “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE CONTRACT WITH ALLEN & HOSHALL, INC. IN THE AMOUNT FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY TWO DOLLARS AND 94/100 (\$48,862.94) TO COVER REIMBURSABLE COSTS AND ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING FEES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW FIRE STATION ON SHACKLEFORD RIDGE ROAD FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN.”

Councilmember Spalding made a motion to approve the resolution. Vice Mayor Speek seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion was approved.

### Discussion

- a. Library Board Applications. Mr. Veal presented the Council with two applications to fill a single vacancy on the Library Board. Mayor Landrum said that one of the applicants, Margaret Greene, is currently a volunteer at the Library, and that the Board has expressed a preference for her application.

Mayor Landrum nominated Margaret Greene to fill the vacancy on the Library Board. Councilmember Murdock seconded the nomination. All present being in favor, a Resolution to approve Margaret Greene to the Library Board will be placed on the next Council agenda.

- b. Memorial – Sam Powell. Mr. Veal said the Parks Board has suggested that one of the bridges Mr. Powell had worked on be named for him. He further stated that naming the

Ohio Avenue/Rainbow Lake trail head has also been suggested. After further consideration, the Council decided they will bring other suggestions to a future Council meeting for further discussion.

- c. Honoring – Phil Noblett. Mr. Veal suggested an honorary resolution and honor tree as is done for past Council members. He stated that this still needs to be done for former Mayor Howley and Councilmember Gee.

Mayor Landrum suggested honoring those individuals at the Centennial Celebration kick-off ceremonies on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Council agreed with this suggestion.

- d. Retiree Coverage Election. Mr. Veal informed the Council that while current employees were already eligible for this coverage, the State had discontinued the program making any future employees ineligible. However, he said, that the State is now offering an opportunity to offer retirees health coverage.

Mr. Veal explained that the State is asking the Council to decide whether to opt out or in for the coverage. He said that if the Council opts in now, the Town can opt out at a later time. Mr. Veal expressed some concern that there might be a change in future insurance coverage costs if the Town elects to opt in. However, he said, if the Council decides to opt out of the retiree coverage, the Town cannot opt back in for the retiree health insurance at a later time.

Following discussions the Council agreed to opt in for now and to review the plan again at a later time. Mr. Veal will prepare a Resolution for approval at the next Council meeting.

- e. Update on Sewer Moratorium. Mr. Veal said that the Waste Water Treatment Authority (WWTA) will meet with the EPA in the coming weeks. He said that he will have more information available following that meeting. He said he anticipates it may be more difficult in the future to get approval to join or hook onto the sewer lines.

Mr. Veal reminded residents that the WWTA currently has a program that will investigate a homeowner's private service connecting line. He said that under the current program, if any major problems are discovered, the WWTA will make repairs. Mr. Veal stated that he anticipates that this program may soon be revised or even eliminated as the WWTA shifts resources to other higher impact programs.

- f. Update on High School Traffic – Preliminary Research/Meetings. Mr. Veal said he and staff have met with representatives of the County and the schools. He said they discovered that several options currently being investigated have already been studied by the County. Mr. Veal said the next meeting will be with School Board Representatives Kathy Lennon and District 2 Representative Chip Baker. Mr. Veal said he anticipates scheduling more meetings with the County representatives after that.

### **Board Liaison Reports**

There were no Board Liaison reports.

### **Manager's Report**

Mr. Veal reported that he and staff have met with residents who came to the last meeting regarding concerns over stormwater drainage on Mississippi and agree there is a serious drainage problem in the area. He said they also met with the private property owner where there is an apparent stoppage. Mr. Veal said staff once again tried with the hydro jetter (which produces a minimum of 3,500 psi of pressure) to clear the blockage, and were unsuccessful. Mr. Veal said the property owner had discovered that an easement on their property had been granted to the Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church who installed the drainage line. He said he has met with representative of the Church and anticipates they will be taking action to remedy the problem.

Mr. Veal said he has begun working on the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget and will be spending quite a bit of time on this over the next weeks.

Mr. Veal said staff has finalized the scope of the bike trail through the Town Hall complex.

Mr. Veal said he spoke to the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) Financial Advisor and a meeting has been set for Friday to review the progress on the water rate study. He said that if the MTAS study appears to be complete, MTAS might be ready to present the results of the water rate study at the Council meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Veal said there has been a drainage washout around a culvert under Valewood Drive. He said this required the road to be closed. He said residents can still get into the neighborhood from either end of the road. Mr. Veal said the Town has ordered the necessary materials for a repair and a contractor will be hired to complete this repair in a timely fashion.

Mr. Veal said he is scheduling a lot of meetings for grants. He said a kick-off meeting is scheduled with TDOT for the sidewalk projects through the Town Hall complex. He said he will also be attending the second of three LPRF mandatory workshops in Farragut on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Veal said he will also be attending the TML Legislative Conference on March 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **Tentative Agenda**

Council discussed a tentative agenda for the March 11, 2019 meeting.

### **Other Business**

Mayor Landrum asked about the status of the proposed dog park. Mr. Veal said he had not received any further contact from the young man who originally proposed the project.

Vice Mayor Speek said she has had difficulty in clearing a day to participate with the Council in the proposed "Field Visits". She asked if the Council would consider doing the tour on a Sunday

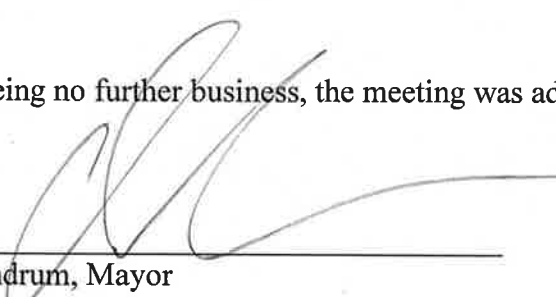
afternoon. Council agreed that might be possible. Mr. Veal will send another schedule out to the Council for their review.

Vice Mayor Speek said she will be meeting soon with Dr. Johnson, Kathy Lennon and Dr. Harwood regarding the start times at the Signal Mountain Middle High School.

Councilmember Spalding reminded all present of the upcoming Sparkle Day clean-up on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mayor Landrum suggested that the Town erect a gazebo/band stand at Althaus Park for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Centennial celebration.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



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Dan Landrum, Mayor

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Recorder